

Appl. No. 09/851,565

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The foregoing amendments to the specification are presented to clarify the official record in respect of the above identified application.

The amended paragraph of the specification properly indicates that this application claims "the benefit of", instead of "priority from", the earlier patent applications that were already identified in the specification.

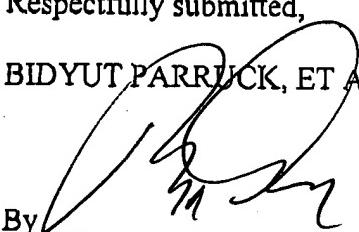
For the assistance of the Examiner, Applicant has also clarified that the present application is a continuation-in-part of the earlier applications. This application repeats at least a portion of the disclosure of each of the earlier applications and also discloses additional subject matter not disclosed in the earlier applications. Accordingly, this application constitutes, and now has been properly identified as, a continuation-in-part application.

Applicant notes that this application had previously been amended to include specific references to the earlier applications of which the benefit is claimed under 35 U.S.C. 120. The above amendments merely clarify the benefit claims.

In view of the foregoing and the previous Office Action response filed on December 16, 2005, it is believed that the application is now in condition for further consideration. The Examiner is advised, however, that the Applicant is in the process of preparing an Information Disclosure Statement in respect of this application, and accordingly the Examiner may wish to await the Information Disclosure Statement before proceeding with examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date:
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